



Flood Mitigation Committee Status Report 2020

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**ASSOCIATION OF STATE
FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS**

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Introduction and Policy Focus Areas

The mission of the Flood Mitigation Committee is to support all efforts to reduce losses from flooding. This work includes and/or may touch upon the following measures or concepts: review of mitigation policies and procedures; active engagement in mitigation grant or loan programs; involvement in post-disaster mitigation opportunities within federal or state systems; engagement in building sciences discussions including building codes that strengthen the built environment; support of favorable impacts on the affordability of federal flood insurance due to mitigation actions; partnerships that encourage or support mitigation efforts or studies, including the potential impacts of climate change upon flood losses; mitigation planning efforts; and of course, support for all flood mitigation measures themselves, such as acquisition, relocation, elevation, reconstruction, and flood proofing.

The Flood Mitigation Committee regularly participates in these key activities:

1. Supports awareness and review of national mitigation trends, legislation, and policies
2. Investigates and offers information on mitigation resources and opportunities
3. Builds committee membership and engagement
4. Develops a guidance document for local funding of mitigation projects

Priorities

One of the main priorities for the committee is to provide feedback on mitigation-related legislation, proposed activities and conceptual drafts. The past year has been extremely busy, with new federal legislation, programs, and the new BRIC grant. The mitigation committee has shared perspective with ASFPM and other parties on a number of fronts, including: the re-use of acquired open space through HMA grants; FEMA discussion on barriers to mitigation; FEMA's new "Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities" program (BRIC, DRR 1234); various discussions about building local and regional resiliency; systems development at FEMA, including the CIS and BureauNet changes/replacements; and others.

Accomplishments

During 2019-2020, the committee has many accomplishments, including:

- Provided input to ASFPM on House Committee on Climate Crisis Report to Congress (November 2019)
- Provided comments on FEMA's Severe Risk Property Acquisition Direct Grant initiative (late 2019)
- Provided feedback on the Anthropocene Alliance's "Ban Fill-and-Build" document (November 2019 and February 2020)
- Participating in the ongoing discussions in ASFPM around re-use of federally-acquired properties. Also contributed in discussions with federal partners. (ongoing)



- Participating in the Higher Regulations Committee’s sub-committee for developing an updated higher standards document. (ongoing)
- Reviewed an updated draft of the Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee’s Crawlspace Brochure (December 2019)
- Participating in the bi-monthly ASFPM-FEMA mitigation discussion (ongoing)
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the draft DRR 1206 PAPAG Policy on Building Code and Floodplain Management Administration and Enforcement (February 2020)
- Participated in discussions around state mitigation programs and difficulties using as FEMA match. (February 2020)
- Provided research regarding the use of municipal bonds for mitigation (February 2020)
- Provided feedback on ASFPM Foundation’s “Flood Risk Assessment & Reduction Community Guidebook” (February 2020)
- Compiled final draft comments for submission regarding the final BRIC policy and guidance (May 2020)
- Participated in discussions regarding FEMA’s PIVOT/PART ongoing issues and difficulties surrounding the new required use of Information Sharing Access Agreements (ISAs) for state/local access to FEMA data (on-going)